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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **SELLS MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR TRANSPORTING 14 UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** –The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announces that on JULY 14, 2003, CASEY JUAN JOSE, DOB 12/20/78, of Sells, Arizona, member of TOHONO O'ODAM RESERVATION, AZ, was sentenced to 33 months incarceration to be followed by three years supervised released, by United States District Judge Frederick J. Martone, in Phoenix, Arizona.

On July 17, 2002, JOSE was stopped in Casa Grande by the United States Border Patrol driving a pickup truck. Eleven aliens were found in the bed of the truck concealed under a black piece of plywood. An additional four undocumented aliens were in the cab of the truck. Officers were concerned for the welfare of the passenger concealed under the plywood as it was approximately 110 degrees outside and the plywood was tightly wedge into the bed of the vehicle. However, no one was injured. JOSE admitted to transporting the aliens from Mexico into the United States and was to be paid \$1200 to deliver the truckload to Chandler, AZ.

JOSE entered a plea of guilty on February 3, 2002 to transportation of illegal aliens pursuant to 8 U.S.C. Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii).

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At sentencing, the judge declined to sentence the defendant at the low end of the guidelines due to his extensive criminal history involving drug abuse and domestic violence. Judge Martone expressed hope that the defendant would take advantage of the structure provided in prison and put his life back on track. As a condition of his supervised release, JOSE is prohibited from traveling to Mexico.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the United States Border Patrol currently part of the Department of Homeland Security.

The prosecution was handled by Lisa Jennis Settel, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-1099-PHX-FJM  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2003-123

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